



State of Connecticut
Department of Developmental Services

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Governor

Jordan A. Scheff
Commissioner

Peter Mason
Deputy Commissioner

**DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES TESTIMONY
BEFORE THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE**

March 5, 2018

Senators Gerratana and Somers, Representatives Steinberg and Betts and members of the Public Health Committee. I am Jordan A. Scheff, Commissioner of the Department of Developmental Services (DDS). Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of [H.B. No. 5163 AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH'S RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING VARIOUS REVISIONS TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH STATUTES](#).

Section 40 of the proposed bill eliminates the requirement for healthcare institutions to have their applications for licensure notarized. This proposal is based on recommendations of the Lean Licensure and Certification Workgroup (LCW) established pursuant to [Special Act No. 17-21](#) which required a workgroup consisting of representatives from state agencies (DDS, DMHAS, DCF and DPH) and nonprofit providers to conduct a review of state agency certification and licensure processes of certain nonprofit community providers and to identify potential efficiencies. A weeklong cross-agency Lean event took place in November 2017 which resulted in a number of legislative proposals aimed at lessening the administrative impact on nonprofits and reducing time away from the individuals who they support.

Currently, DPH certifies 68 DDS Community Living Arrangements as Intermediate Care Facilities for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities (ICF/IIDs), operated by 12 DDS qualified provider agencies. Eliminating the requirement that healthcare institutions have their applications for licensure notarized is a welcome recommendation given the increased reliance on electronic submission methods such as the use of the state's eLicensing and Biznet systems.

This proposal, along with other Lean related proposals before the Public Health Committee this session, are a step in the right direction for both the state agencies involved and our private provider partners as we continue to improve and evolve the service system by lessening administrative burdens and focusing more on the needs of individuals with intellectual disability who we support.

Thank you again for the opportunity to offer testimony in support of [H.B. No. 5163 AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH'S RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING VARIOUS REVISIONS TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH STATUTES](#). If you have any questions, please contact Christine Pollio Cooney, DDS Director of Legislative and Executive Affairs at (860) 418-6066.

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